

# National Infrastructure Advisory Council (NIAC)

## **NIAC Chemical, Biological and Radiological Events and Critical Infrastructure Workforce Operators**

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## Overview

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- ▣ Objective/Scope
- ▣ Critical Sectors Represented
- ▣ Key Questions
- ▣ Study Group Needs
- ▣ Timelines

## Objective and Scope

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### ❑ Objective:

- Provide recommendations for preparing those who work in and maintain areas considered Critical Infrastructure (CI) for a chemical event and ensuring they have the tools, training, and equipment necessary to identify, respond to, and recover from a chemical emergency.

### ❑ Scope of the activity:

- Identify CI operating personnel and chemical emergency requirements;
- Define different kinds of chemical emergencies and address the probability of their occurrence;
- Identify how needs are currently handled;
- Identify vulnerabilities in preparedness and response capabilities; and
- Identify gaps and solutions.

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## Critical Sectors Represented

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### ❑ Critical sectors include:

- Chemical
- Commercial Facilities
- Emergency Services
- Energy
- Financial Services
- Food and Agriculture
- Healthcare
- Information Technology
- Telecommunications
- Transportation
- Water and Wastewater

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## Key Questions

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- ❑ Common set of data points to collect across critical sectors; contributes to trending/consistency
- ❑ Question #1
  - Do CEOs and their organizations have employee awareness, preparedness and response training programs?
    - ❑ What is the nature of the training program?
    - ❑ Who leads this function?
    - ❑ Is this an enterprise issue?
    - ❑ Are there industry leaders that excel at chemical preparedness?
    - ❑ What lessons learned are derived from your experiences or the experiences of those industry leaders?

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## Key Questions (cont.)

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- ❑ Question #2
  - Is there a market incentive to invest in chemical preparedness and response programs?
- ❑ Question #3
  - Is there sufficient communication infrastructure in place to respond to a chemical event?
    - ❑ How are owner/operators informed? Via what channels?
    - ❑ How quickly is information distributed?
    - ❑ What are the bottlenecks to information distribution?
    - ❑ What role do SCCs or ISACs play in chemical events?

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## Key Questions (cont.)

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- ❑ Question #4
  - What tools and technologies currently support your chemical response capability?
  - What tools and technologies are currently insufficient and why do they not meet your requirements?
- ❑ Question #5
  - Is there sufficient coordination between federal, state, local and private-sector entities?
    - ❑ What inter-dependent plans are currently in place?
    - ❑ How is coordination managed between entities at multiple public and private sector levels?
    - ❑ How is communication managed?
    - ❑ Are there examples of successful exercises across entities?

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## Key Questions (cont.)

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- ❑ Question #6
  - What can the Federal government do to encourage or facilitate enhanced preparedness and response capabilities?
- ❑ Question #7
  - What are key inter-dependencies in a chemical event?
    - ❑ How are those inter-dependencies managed? Via what channels? Are they federal, state, local, private or multiple combinations of all four?
    - ❑ How are inter-dependent communications managed?

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## Key Questions (cont.)

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### ❑ Question #8

- What are the three or four critical vulnerabilities facing your organization today?
  - ❑ What are the proposed best courses of action to remedy those vulnerabilities?
  - ❑ Who manages these responsibilities and what role should each party play?
  - ❑ What is the timeline to address identified vulnerabilities?

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## Study Group Needs

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- ❑ Chemical Sector Subject Matter Experts to help Study Group members define:
  - Scenarios
  - Probability of certain kinds of emergencies
  - Response to certain, likely chemical incidents, e.g., chlorine incident, other kinds of chemical issues
  - Scope, impact, and resolution to likely scenarios
- ❑ Guest speakers to address chemical terrorism/weapons and hazmat accident response
- ❑ Public sector expertise to help Study Group better understand federal, state, and local chemical monitoring and response capabilities

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## Timelines

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- ▣ Reinitiated after completion of the Pandemic Report and Recommendations
- ▣ April NIAC Meeting: data collection update
- ▣ July NIAC Meeting: present initial findings and recommendations
- ▣ October NIAC Meeting: present final findings and recommendations; deliver report

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## Questions?

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